MONITORING A CONDITION OF A PNEUMATIC TIRE

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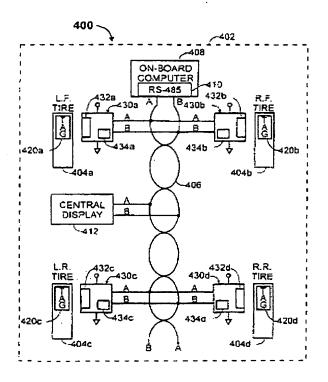
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An unsafe operating condition, such as low pressure, of a pneumatic tire is monitored by measuring a temperature (T) of the pneumatic tire, determining (304, 308) rates (R1, R2) at which the tire temperature is changing, and indicating (340) when the rate exceeds predetermined values (A, C). The rate (R1, R2) may be determined with respect to time (t), or with respect to some other parameter such as travel distance (x). The predetermined value (C) may be a function of the tire's rotational velocity (V). The rotation speed (V) of the tire may be taken into account. The driver may be alerted when the temperature exceeds a maximum acceptable operating temperature (D) for the tire, or when the temperature of one tire deviates significantly from the temperatures of the other tires on the vehicle.



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